

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Bhagwat.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Bhagwat in view of the patent to Somers.

Also, the claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112.

With the present Amendment applicants amended the specification to bring it in compliance with the requirements of the U.S. patent practice and to make a cross-reference to the priority application.

After carefully considering the Examiner's grounds for the rejection of the claims over the art and for formal reasons, the original claims have been canceled and replaced with a new set of claims including claim 12, the broadest claim on file, and claims 13-28 which depend on it.

It is respectfully submitted that the new features of the present invention as defined in claim 12, the broadest claim on file, are not disclosed in the prior art applied against the original claims.

Claim 12 specifically defines that the cordless screwdriver is designed so that in a charging mode the contact tabs 37 for charging a rechargeable battery of the screwdriver automatically initiates the charging mode, and the cordless screwdriver has a whole is received in the charging cradle with its output spindle inclined in pointing downwards.

Turning now to the prior art applied by the Examiner, in particular the patent to Bhagwat. This reference discloses a system for power-operated devices. The Examiner correctly indicated that the battery of the device disclosed in the reference has charging tabs and is placeable on the charging cradle however, this reference does not disclose the new features of the present invention. However, the reference does not teach the new features of the present invention, in particular that the whole cordless screwdriver is received in the charging cradle, and in particular its complete housing 12, 18. It has been known in the prior art for a long time to place a battery pack on a charger. However, it has not been known and it is not disclosed in the patent to Bhagwat to provide such a cordless screwdriver which is configured with its housing to be received as a whole and held in the charging cradle.

The patent to Bhagwat nor the other prior art discloses that the whole screwdriver in the charging mode is carried or taken in the cradle, especially in an angular arrangement defined in claim 12.

Claim 12 should be considered as patentably distinguishing over the art and should be allowed.

Claims 27 and 28 provide additional details as to how the parts of the screwdriver are designed so that they are received in the charging cradle in the specific inventive way. These claims also clearly and patentably distinguish the present invention from the prior art because of the new feature contained in these claims.

The other claims define additional features of the present invention which are patentable as well.

In view of the above presented remarks and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is

respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

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